

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

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Please replace the two paragraphs beginning on page 5, line 2, with the following amended paragraphs:

[0021] As shown in FIG. 2, in order to open and close the sliding door 3, the user applies force to the upper portion of the handle 4. More specifically, when the user opens and closes the sliding door 3 formed on the lower portion of the refrigerator, the user applies force not only to pull the handle 4, but also to lift the handle 4 upwards. The force applied upwards (or the lifting force \underline{F}) is represented as an arrow in FIG. 2.

[0022] As described above, the upward force \underline{F} is transmitted to the handle holder 5 connected to the handle 4, thereby causing damage to the handle holder 5. The damage caused to the handle holder 5 will now be described in detail with reference to FIG. 3.

Please replace the eight paragraphs beginning on page 8, line 22, with the following amended paragraphs:

[0051] Referring to FIG. 4, the door assembly of the refrigerator according to the present invention includes a door 20, a handle 30, a handle holder 10, and a supporting member 40. The cross-sectional view of the handle holder 10 in FIG. 4 is taken from the section line IV-IV of FIG. 5.

[0052] The door 20 of the door assembly of the refrigerator is opened and closed to store food within and to take out food from the refrigerator. Also, the door 20 is ~~provided~~located on the front side of the refrigerator.

[0053] The handle of the door assembly of the refrigerator is ~~provided~~located on a side of the door 20, so as to allow the user to open and close the door 20 of the refrigerator. In addition, one end of the handle holder 10 is fixed to the door 20, and the other end of the handle holder 10 is attached to the handle 30.

[0054] Moreover, the supporting member 40 of the door assembly of the refrigerator ~~provided~~located on the handle holder 10 is formed to ~~support the strength of~~ reinforce the handle holder 10, thereby preventing damage from occurring.

[0055] The position and the shape of the supporting member 40 provided in the present invention will now be described in detail.

[0056] In order to enhance the ~~outer feature~~ appearance of the refrigerator, the supporting member 40 is ~~provided~~located on the lower surface of the handle holder 10 and protruded downwards. Also, in order to further enhance the outer feature of the refrigerator, the supporting member 40 is provided on a surface where the handle holder 10 contacts the door 20.

[0057] Moreover, in order to reduce material costs, the supporting member 40 is provided ~~to have~~ with a width smaller than that of the handle holder 10. Herein, the supporting

member 40 is integrated with the handle holder 10, so as to facilitate the fabrication process of the supporting member 40.

[0058] Meanwhile, a fixing part penetrating the handle holder 10 fixes the handle holder 10 to the door 20. Herein, the fixing part can be formed of rivets. However, in order to facilitate the attachment of the handle holder 10 to the door 20, the fixing part is ~~provided~~comprised of screws 16 and 17. Also, at least two (2) screws 16 and 17 are provided, so as to stably fix the handle holder 10 to the door 20.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 10, line 11, with the following amended paragraph:

[0061] However, in the door assembly of the refrigerator according to the present invention, the supporting member 40 is ~~provided~~located on the periphery of the holes 13 and 14, through which the screws 16 and 17 are inserted. Accordingly, the applied force is concentrated at the peripheral area of the holes 13 and 14 penetrated by the screws 16 and 17, thereby preventing damage in the handle holder 10.

Please replace the three paragraphs beginning on page 6, line 11, with the following amended paragraphs:

[0066] Referring to FIG. 6, a ~~hole~~groove 21 having the supporting member 40 inserted therein is provided in the door 20. The ~~hole~~groove 21 is provided on the upper surface of the door 20.

[0067] The depth of the ~~hole-groove~~ 21 provided on the door 20 is the same as the length of the supporting member 40. Since the supporting member 40 fits the ~~hole-groove~~ 21 provided on the upper surface of the door 20, the handle holder 10 can be stably fixed to the door 20.

[0068] In addition, when fixing the handle holder 10 to the door 20, the supporting member 40 and the ~~hole-groove~~ 21 accurately guide the handle holder [[21]] 10 to its exact location. Due to the above-described structure, the location of the handle holder [[21]] 10 can be easily found, thereby enhancing the manufacturing efficiency and facilitating the manufacturing process.